REPORT

—OF—

EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION (N. S.)

FOR THE FISCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31,

1967

QUEEN'S PRINTER
HALIFAX, N. S.

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TO HIS HONOR,

The Honourable H. P. MacKeen, C.D., Q.C.,

Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

I have the honour to submit herewith a Report of the Emergency Measures Organization (Nova Scotia) for the fiscal year ended 31st March, A.D. 1967.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

GERALD J. DOUCET

Provincial Secretary

Halifax, Nova Scotia,

101-05136/

REPORT

OF

EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION (NOVA SCOTIA)

for the year ended 31 March 1967

GENERAL

With the continued emphasis on emergency planning for peacetime disasters, one of our basic courses has been reorganized by our Training Branch. This course is designed to introduce municipal government and local officials to their responsibilities in this field, to the Municipal Emergency Government Headquarters (MEGHQ) including its role and organization, and to the basic "staff duties" normally required, with an exercise bringing the foregoing into practice.

This course is our Municipal Emergency Planning and Operations Course, Parts 1, 2 and 3. Part 3 is the exercise.

A good response has been received as a result of this course, and directors of the various municipal emergency measures organizations report an increase in support from their municipal councils.

A Welfare Planning Officer was appointed in August 1966, to the existing vacancy, and as a result there has been a renewal of Departmental and Municipal interest in the field of Emergency Welfare.

LEGISLATION

Two Orders in Council with regard to emergency planning were issued during the year.

In summary, one Order in Council established an Executive Council Committee on Emergency Planning, a Continuity of Government Planning Committee, and a Continuity of Departments Planning Committee. The second Order determined the Ministers of which departments were designate for the Regional Emergency Government Headquarters (REGHQ) in the event of a national emergency, and named the Zone Commissioners, together with their terms of reference, also to have effect only in he event of national emergency.

The Premier's memorandum issued in March 1966, in regard to detailing departmental planning responsibilities, including the requirement for the appointment from the existing, senior staff, of a Planning Officer, has been given proper attention, and is having good results. Having been appointed, these planning officers were given a tour of REGHQ and introduced to the intricacies of their planning responsibilities and tasks.

PLANNING

Planning is progressing. Emphasis continues to be placed on planning for a peacetime disaster, and this is a facet of municipal government life to which is being given greater attention than in the past.

The appointment of departmental planning officers is beginning to show effect, and some departments have their emergency plans well in hand and expected to be completed shortly.

TRAINING

The Provincial EMO Training Staff spent considerable time in public speaking during the year, having been guest speakers at service clubs, PTA meetings, association annual meetings and have accepted a number of invitations to address municipal council meetings.

A number of training courses were conducted in various parts of the Province during the year, in such fields as Municipal Emergency Planning, Radiation Monitoring, Auxiliary Police, Auxiliary Fire, Rescue, Restricted Radio Operator's, and the several skills in the Emergency Welfare Services. A total of 735 volunteer workers were awarded certificates of attendance.

In addition, the Province sponsored the attendance of 119 volunteer workers at various courses conducted at the Canadian Emergency Measures College at Arnprior, Ontario. Included in the list of the more important of the courses in question were:

a. Fallout Protection.
b. Radiation Protection in EHS Hospitals.
c. Conference of Mayors and Wardens.
d. Agricultural Officers Orientation.
e. Radiological Defence Officers.
f. National Survival Organization, Planning and Operations.

g. Various technical courses for civil volunteer workers in the Emergency Health and Emergency Welfare Services.

EXERCISES AND STUDIES

The only major exercise undertaken at the Provincial level was the national exercise TOCSIN "66". This exercise was considered a success, and certainly drew to the attention of our Provincial departments many of the weaknesses in their plans and, in some cases, the need for a plan.

A number of exercises were held at various hospitals, under the direction of the Emergency Health Services, to test the hospital disaster plans, to demonstrate the Advanced Treatment Centres and Emergency Hospital Units, and to practice hospital staffs in their emergency roles, and also those many volunteer workers from emergency services other than specifically "hospital" without which the disaster plans cannot work.

OPERATIONS

This office rendered minor assistance during the year arranging the loan of DND water-carrying vehicles to two areas suffering under an unexpected water shortage. The loan of a DND pump was arranged for a third area.

Arrangements continue to be in force whereby the staff of EMO (NS) is always available to co-ordinate all efforts which might be required in any type of emergency.

The Hose Coupling Standardization Program continues to make progress. All of Western Zone has now been completed, and it is planned to continue the program into Truro and Colchester County in 1967.

The financial aspects of the program are reported in the "Financial" paragraph of this report.

COMMUNICATIONS

The EMO (NS) VHF network continues to be maintained to form a support to existing commercial facilities in an emergency.

The VHF link to Cape Breton Zone has now been completed, and is in operation. This completes the EMO (NS) emergency communications net.

Operators are being trained to D.O.T. (Radio Services) standards on appropriate courses from time to time, and are available to man emergency communications when needed.

The Halifax-Dartmouth Emergency Measures Organization carried out a number of radio field tests to determine emergency communication capabilities with their current available facilities, and to exercise their volunteer Communications Service personnel with their "Ham" equipment.

A two-day Communications exercise was carried out by EMO (Yarmouth), and those taking part were fed in the field by the Emergency Feeding Service of EMO (Yarmouth).

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Provincial Training Staff attended, by request, a meeting of municipal Council which was called to receive a briefing on the question of emergency planning with all the ramifications.

In addition, the training staff attended three (3) Municipal Study Groups, and provided lecturers for:

a. "A Symposium in Radiological Defence for Hospitals", Victoria General Hospital, Halifax, N. S.
b. "A Study Group for Disaster Blood Services," at Camp Hill Hospital, Halifax, N. S.
c. Halifax Rover Scouts, on Radiological Defence, and
d. Nurses in Training, and staff, Halifax Childrens' Hospital.

SPECIAL CONFERENCES

The Director, EMO (NS) and Assistant Director attended a "Briefing for Senior EMO Officers and Senior Government Officers, on the aspects of International Emergency Planning", held at the Canadian Emergency Measures College, Arnprior, Ontario.

A Seminar was held in the Red Room, Province House, of government senior officers, Heads of Departments and Departmental Planning Officers. The seminar was opened by the Minister Responsible for the Emergency Measures Organization of Nova Scotia, the Hon. Gerald J. Doucet, and the Guest Speaker was Major-General WAB Anderson, Deputy Chief (Reserves).

EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

The Emergency Health Services (EHS) are continuing actively with the EHS Medical Stockpile Prepositioning program. There are now:

a. 2 Emergency Hospitals, one located in Kentville, and the second in Truro.
b. 8 Advanced Treatment Centres (ATCs), located at Liverpool, Windsor, North Sydney, Brooklyn (Hants), Shubenacadie, Halifax International Airport, Mahone Bay, respectively, and one retained in Halifax for training purposes.
c. 4 Casualty Collecting Units, one each at Liverpool, Windsor, North Sydney and the fourth retained in Halifax for training purposes.

In addition to the prepositioning program, a great deal of time and effort has been expended in the organizing of staff to run the foregoing equipment, and the training of the individuals in the many required skills.

Assistance and guidance has been given to the many hospitals in the Province in the preparation of disaster Plans, and in the exercising of them.

FINANCIAL

The Province continued to participate in the Federal Financial Assistance Programme, whereby the Province is refunded a sum equal to 75 per cent by the Federal Government of all approved expenditures for Emergency Measures Organization (NS).

The municipalities also benefit substantially under this plan, because 15 per cent of their approved expenditures for training and administration for civil defence is refunded by the Provincial Government and 75 per cent by the Federal Government.

The total amount expended for this purpose by the Province and the Municipalities in this year under review was $264,768.99.

The Province continued to participate in the Hose Coupling Standardization Programme. This programme is being dispersed over a period of seven years. The total cost is expected to be approximately $90,000.00, of which 33 1/3 per cent is recoverable from the Government of Canada.

A statement of expenditures and the amounts recovered as compared with the previous year is shown:

PROVINCE	**1965-66**	**1966-67**
Expended by EMO (NS)	$126,741.24	$139,521.06
Recovered from Government of Canada	95,055.94	104,640.78
MUNICIPALITIES		
Recovered by Municipalities from Federal	$ 98,498.80	$ 93,935.96
Recovered by Municipalities from Province	19,699.78	18,787.18
Net expenditure by Municipalities	13,133.16	12,524.79
Gross expenditure by Municipalities	$131,331.74	$125,247.93

Hose Coupling Standardization Programme	**1965-66**	**1966-67**
Expended by EMO (NS)	$ 16,162.46	$ 16,648.00
Recovered from Government of Canada	5,387.49	5,549.33
Net expenditure by the Province	$ 10,774.97	$ 11,098.67

Operational Equipment with a Peacetime Use		
Recovered by Municipalities from Federal	$ 8,244.80	$ 4,275.11
Recovered by Municipalities from Province	8,244.81	4,275.11
Net expenditure by Municipalities	16,489.61	8,550.21
Gross expenditure by Municipalities	$ 32,979.22	$ 17,100.43

CONCLUSIONS

The policy of the Government of Nova Scotia continues with the concept that the Provincial planning program should be, and is, complementary to the emergency planning program of the Federal Government.

The Minister Responsible for Emergency Measures Organization (Nova Scotia) provides policy guidance to government departments and agencies, and municipal governments in the field of emergency planning, and each emergency plan prepared is subject to the approval of the Minister. Similar policy and procedure is in effect for peace time emergencies.

With world tensions as they are to-day, no country can afford to discount the threat of war, however horrible to contemplate. Also, with so many prime examples before us, no country should discount the threat of a major peace time disaster, either. The words of Sir Winston Churchill in March 1955 are applicable equally to both types of disaster:

> "No city, no family, nor any honourable man or woman can repudiate this civil defence duty, and accept from others help which they are not prepared to fit themselves to render in return. None must deny it as long as they live."